EXHIBIT



ontana Economic Developers Association

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March 26, 2007

Representative Bob Lake, Chair House Taxation Committee Montana State Senate State Capitol PO Box 200400 Helena, MT 59620-0400

Re: HB832 Revise Tax Increment Financing Laws

Dear Chairman Lake and the House Taxation Committee:

The Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA) represents over 200 professionals who work with local economic development organizations across the State of Montana. We are leaders within the economic development profession, business specialists, government employees, and staff members of affiliated non-profit organizations which promote and foster economic development activities in Montana.

MEDA strongly encourages your support of HB832 as tax increment financing is a critical and key tool for Montana's communities and businesses. This bill would clarify and define the best use of tax increment financing and allow for targeted economic development in specific areas.

In closing, the members of Montana's Economic Developers Association encourage your support for this bill as it will allow local officials, business leaders and economic developers to work cooperatively to support targeted economic development of benefit to all,

Sincerely,

Rick Edwards, President

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Cc: MEDA Board of Directors

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